JOINING OF FARMERS IN CORPORATE SECTORS

3302. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether cooperative movement which is the life-line of the farmers has been ruined by bureaucracy which is instrumental in taking over of industrial sector my non-farming urban capitals which has succeded in turning the rural economy as a source of raw material in this industry;

(b) whether farmers would be allowed to join corporate sector as an alternative to the cooperatives for processing their produce and whether Govt. would support the farmers in establishing their agro-processing units for them to derive directly the maximum benefits of value-addition; and

(c) if so, what benefits would be provided to encourage the farmers in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) No Sir. The Cooperative movement in India has grown in stature and extent of coverage over the years. Cooperatives control production of about 60 per cent of sugar, are handling about 20 per cent of production of milk and 37 per cent of Jute and possess about 11 per cent of total spindleages in spinning mills in the country processing sizeable quantities of oilseeds.

(b) and (c) There is no bar for the farmers to join the corporate sector. A number of big firms in the corporate sector have already come up in this field. Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing various developmental plan schemes which seek to provide assistance to Public Sector, Joint Sector, Cooperative Sector, etc., for setting up development of food processing industries in the country. Most of the food processing industries have been delicenced as per the Industrial policy of Govt. of India notified on 25-7-91 and Food Processing Industries hvae been put on the priority list. Various fiscal concessions have also been made available to these industries by the Government.

CULTIVATION OF VEGETABLES IN ANDHRA PRADESH

3303. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any district in Andhra Pradesh have been surveyed and selected for encouraging cultivation of vegetables for export purposes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to encourage export of vgetables; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) and (b) Government of India have not conducted survey in any district in Andhra Pradesh for encouraging cultivation of vegetables for export purposes.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Government of India through APEDA has taken the following steps to encourage the export of vegetables :

(i) Formulated a number of schemes to encourage the growers/exporters to take financial assistance as per the Statement enclosed. (*See* below)

(ii) Encouraging the exports of vegetables in reefer sea containers to neighbouring countries particularly to gulf region.

(iii) Installed cold storage at International Airports to maintain the quality of fresh vegetables.

(iv) Providing market information of International markets and other required information to enable growers/exporters to make suitable strategies for promoting exports.

(v) Organising special promotions, participate in trade fairs, sends & invites delegation for promoting export of fresh vegetables.

Statement

Summary of APEDA Schemes

Sl. No.	Title of Scheme	Activity Components under the Scheme	Pattern of Assistance
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1.	Scheme for Survey, Feasibility Consultancy and data base.	(a) Assistance to growers, their organisations and Associations, Exporters, Entrepreneurs, etc., for feasibility studies.	50% (ceiling of Rs. 2.00 lakhs per beneficiary) (i) Product and publicity literature : 40%.
		(b) Assistance to growers, their organisations and Associations, Exporters for preparation of product literature, publicity material etc.	(ii) Audio - visual: 40% (iii) (Ceiling of Rs. 1.0 lakh per beneficiary).
2.	Scheme for development of infrastructure and services.	Assistance for purchase of specialised transport units for meat, horticulture and floriculture sectors.	25% (ceiling of Rs. 1.5 lakhs per unit).
3.	Scheme for Export promotion and market development.	(a) Supply of material for purposes of product information, publicity promotion by APEDA.	Cost of samples or freight or both to be decided on case to case basis (ceiling of Rs. 50,000 per exporter);
		(b) Brand Publicity	40% ceiling of Rs. 50,000 per exporter.
4.	Scheme for packaging Development.	(a) Programme for development of packaging standards and designs.	APEDA'S own programme
		(b) Assistance to exporters for packaging development.	60% subsidy on cost of packaging development (ceiling of Rs. 1 lakh per beneficiary).
		(c) 30% subsidy to exporters for utilising packaging developed by APEDA through IIP or others alongwith the Produce.	30% subsidy (ceiling of Rs. 1 lakh per beneficiary).

Statement—*Contd.*

1	2	3	4
5.	Scheme for assistance to promote quality and quality control.	Assistance to manufacturer exporters and producers for setting up/strengthening of quality control functions/ laboratories including laboratory equipments and field laboratories.	*Assistance will be provided at uniform rate of 50% with an overall ceiling of Rs. 5.0 lakhs per beneficiary.
		Assistance to exporters and producers for specialised consultancy services towards installing ISO-9000 or other recognised international quality control systems and developing quality control manuals.	*Upto 50% of the cost subject to a ceiling of Rs. 2.0 lakhs per beneficiary.
6.	Scheme for organisation building, HRD and training and data base.	(a) Assistance to growers and manufacturer-exporters for upgradation of technical skills or supervisory, technical and managerial personnel through training in India.	50% of cost of approved training programme.
			50% of the cost of publication for the purpose of dissemination of information
		(b) Assistance to recognised associations of growers/ exporters for support contribution towards export related group activities.	subject to a ceiling of Rs. 10,000 per individual beneficiary. The assistance will be available only to recognised associations of growers/exports contribution.
7.	Scheme for improvement in post harvest handling of perishable horticultural products.	(a) Assistance to exporters/ producers/growers/co-operative organisations and federations.	50% of the total subject to a ceiling of Rs. 5 lakhs per beneficiary.
8.	Scheme for assistance for modernisation/upgradation expansion/diversification.	Financial assistance for modernisation and upgradation of slaughter houses/ processing plants under the public sector engaged in export production.	50% of modernisation upgradation costs.
9.	Scheme for Brand Promotion.	Interest free loan.	40% of the expenditure (ceiling of Rs. 50,000 per beneficiary).
10.	Scheme of generating relevant Research and development by APEDA through research institutions for common benefit of trade and industry.	Assistance to research institutions to do relevant research and development for products development for export.	This is an internal scheme of APEDA.